

LESSONS 9 AND 10

Creativity

Directions

1. Determine how the Latin or Greek root is related in meaning and spelling to each defined—KEY—word that follows it.
2. Learn the pronunciation and definition(s) of each KEY word, and notice how the words are used in sentences.
3. Practice using the varied forms of KEY words.
4. Build your knowledge with all the information given: Latin mottoes, Familiar Words, Challenge Words, and Nota Bene references.
5. Complete the exercises.

LESSON 9

Ars longa, vita brevis.

Art is long; life is short.—HIPPOCRATES

Key Words		
artifact	depict	parody
artifice	incantation	pictograph
artisan	ode	recant
artless		rhapsody

Familiar Words

art
artificial
artist
artistry

Challenge Words

artiste
Art Nouveau
arty

ARS, ARTIS <L. "art"

1. **artifact** (är'tə fäkt) [*facere* <L. "to make"]
n. An object made by human beings; often refers to a primitive tool or other relic from an earlier period.

In some distant future hula hoops and skateboards may become treasured **artifacts**.



2. **artifice** (är'tə fīs) [*-fice = ficere or facere* <L. "to make"]
n. 1. Craftiness; trickery.

In the fable about a crow and a pitcher, the crow's **artifice** enables it to quench its thirst: it drops pebbles into the pitcher to raise the water level high enough to drink.



2. Cleverness; skill.

Dressing stylishly on a limited budget requires planning, imagination, and **artifice**.

artificer, *n.*

3. **artless** (ärt'līs)
adj. 1. Without deceit or cunning; natural; simple.

Because Miranda has lived all her life on a remote island, she is **artless** in the ways of the world.

2. Crude; ignorant; uncultured.

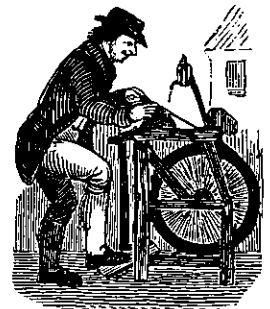
At a formal dinner an **artless** person might drink the water from a finger bowl instead of gently rinsing the fingers in it.

artlessness, *n.*

Antonym: **artful**

4. **artisan** (är'tə zăn, är'tə sän)
n. A skilled craftsperson.

George Hepplewhite was such a superb **artisan** that his furniture is still prized more than two centuries later.



Familiar Words

comedy
melody
tragedy

Challenge Words

hymnody
monody
prosody

AOIDE <G. "song"**5. ode** (ōd)

n. A poem usually addressed to a particular person, object, or event that has stimulated deep and noble feelings in the poet.

Beginning his **ode** with the line, "O wild West Wind, thou breath of Autumn's being," Percy Bysshe Shelley expresses admiration for the wind's swiftness and power and asks it to scatter the poet's words "among mankind."

NOTA BENE: Appearing first in Greece, the ode has traditionally been a long poem written on the occasion of a national celebration or heroic feat. In more recent times it often conveys the poet's thoughts on a subject such as immortality or solitude; famous English writers of odes in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries are Thomas Gray, William Wordsworth, Percy Bysshe Shelley, and John Keats. However, a poet may use the form to create a somewhat less serious effect, as do Gray in "Ode on the Death of a Favourite Cat Drowned in a Tub of Gold Fishes" and Robert Burns in "To a Mouse."

6. parody (pär'ə dē) [*para* <G. "alongside"]

n. A humorous imitation of a piece of literature or music.

Ogden Nash's **parody** of Joyce Kilmer's "Trees" bemoans the ugliness of billboards in a humorous way:

I think that I shall never see
A billboard lovely as a tree.
Indeed, unless the billboards fall
I'll never see a tree at all.



tr. v. To mimic a style, plot, or idea for comic effect.

Cartoonists sometimes **parody** contemporary political figures or events.

parodist, *n.*

NOTA BENE: The following is a parody of "'Twas the Night before Christmas":

'Twas the day before graduation
And all through the school
The seniors were laid back,
Trying to be cool.

They passed all their classes
By cramming like mad
In hopes that the prom
Would be "awesome" and "rad."

(STEVE JUBB, "'Twas the Day before Graduation")

7. **rhapsody** (răp'sə dē) [*rhaptein* <G. "to string," "to stitch together"]
n. Speech or writing expressing great pleasure or enthusiasm.

Visitors to the Grand Canyon often recount their impressions in a **rhapsody** of detail.

rhapsodic, *adj.*; **rhapsodist**, *n.*; **rhapsodize**, *v.*

NOTA BENE: The word *rhapsody* can also refer to a musical composition of irregular form. An example is George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," which combines jazz and classical music.

NOTA BENE: Although some scholars are questioning the origin of the word *tragedy*, it is thought to have begun in ancient Greece as an ode sung in honor of Dionysus, god of wine, animal life, and vegetation. The prize for the performance was a young goat [*tragos* <G. "goat"]. These songs grew into longer productions and eventually into plays. Today the word *tragedy* applies to a dramatic or literary work having a major character who struggles with a moral problem that leads to severe disappointment, ruin, or death. *Comedy* [*komos* <G. "merrymaking" and *aiodes* <G. "singer"] also began as a song honoring Dionysus but in a procession at spring and harvest festivals. Today the word *comedy* refers to a play, motion picture, or other work that is humorous and ends happily.



Familiar Words
 chant
 enchant

Challenge Words
 cant
 cantata
 canto
 cantor
 chanteuse
 descant

CANTO, CANTARE, CANTAVI, CANTATUM <L. "to sing"

8. **incantation** (in kăn tā'shən) [*in* <L. "in"]
n. The chanting or speaking of words seeming to have magical power or used to create a magical spell.

The **incantation**, "Open, Sesame!" spoken in an *Arabian Nights* tale, derives from the magical powers associated with the sesame plant.

9. **recant** (rĭ kănt') [*re* <L. "back"]
tr. v. To take back a formal statement or belief previously made known.

Although Galileo was convinced that the earth moves around the sun, he **recanted** this belief when it brought open conflict with the Catholic church.

recantation, *n.*

Familiar Words

paint
pictorial
picture
picturesque
pigment

PINGO, PINGERE, PINXI, PICTUM

<L. "to paint," "to embroider"

- 10. depict** (dī pīkt') [*de* <L. "from"]
tr. v. 1. To paint, draw, or express in a picture or sculpture.

The Bayeux Tapestry **depicts** the Battle of Hastings fought in 1066 between the Saxons and the Norman invaders.

2. To describe; to picture in words.

Jade Snow Wong **depicts** the life of a girl growing up in San Francisco's Chinatown in her autobiography, *Fifth Chinese Daughter*.

- 11. pictograph** (pīc'tə gräf, pīc'tə gräf) [*graph* <L. "a sharp-pointed tool for writing on waxen tablets"]
n. A picture or drawing representing words or ideas.

Pictographs on the walls of palaces in Yucatan have given archaeologists clues to Mayan mythology.

pictographic, *adj.*

**EXERCISE 9A**

Circle the letter of the best SYNONYM (the word or phrase most nearly the same as the word in bold-faced type).

- to **depict** a bullfight a. paint b. attend c. speak out against
d. photograph e. enjoy
- to **recant** testimony in court a. sing out b. take back c. agree
with d. repeat e. disprove
- the **artifice** of ancient Chinese painters a. originality b. lack of
talent c. imitation d. skill e. beauty
- inspired by the **ode** a. poem b. story c. strange writing
d. humorous verse e. portrait
- a skilled **artisan** a. cartoonist b. painter c. craftsman
d. storyteller e. poet
- praised the **artifact** a. truthful statement b. poem c. skill
d. dishonest statement e. relic
- remembered the **incantation** a. hieroglyphics b. trick
c. magician d. magic spell e. description

Circle the letter of the best **ANTONYM** (the word or phrase most nearly the opposite the word in bold-faced type).

8. annoyed by the **parody** a. cartoon b. imitation c. lies
d. serious, original work e. lack of skill
9. a(n) **artless** young journalist a. ignorant b. simple
c. unskilled d. deceitful e. inartistic
10. a(n) **rhapsodic** retelling of a movie plot a. excited b. long-winded
c. musical d. poetic e. unenthusiastic

EXERCISE 9B

Circle the letter of the sentence in which the word in bold-faced type is used incorrectly.

1. a. No amount of **incantation** persuaded my parents to let me see my graduation present before the day.
b. The priestess uttered an **incantation** to summon the Greek goddess Artemis.
c. As the fortune-teller murmured an **incantation**, we waited to learn our future.
d. The three witches in *Macbeth* toss strange objects into the boiling pot, chanting an **incantation**: "Double, double toil and trouble;/ Fire burn, and cauldron bubble."
2. a. The athlete refused to **recant** his claim that he had never used steroids to give him an advantage over other athletes.
b. The children **recanted** the song until they knew it by heart.
c. Sometimes witnesses in court cases **recant** their earlier testimony, raising questions about what really happened.
d. To try to save her life, Joan of Arc **recanted** her assertion that divine voices had guided her to become the savior of France.
3. a. Frankie Addams, an **artless** twelve-year-old in *A Member of the Wedding*, expects to accompany her brother and his wife on their honeymoon.
b. The painter became restless when she had to remain **artless** during her long hospital treatment.
c. Although **artless** in knowledge of manners at home and at school, Huckleberry Finn is instinctively wise in distinguishing good and evil in human beings.
d. The **artless** smiles of babies are universally appealing.
4. a. Amateur detective Nancy Drew is notable for her **artifice** in finding clues.